

# Campus Safety

We ask that **NO DOGS** be allowed on campus. We continue to find piles of dog poop on our playground that are not cleaned up by dog owners. In addition, when dogs arrive on campus with students present, kids are automatically drawn to them and have a hard time keeping hands off. While we may see our dogs as being friendly, we have seen that change quickly when too many strange hands reach out to pet even the friendliest of pets. For the safety and health of our students, please keep all pets at home.

## Missoula Children's Theater

This year's presentation of "Peter and Wendy" was awesome! Thank you to Nev McGuire for coordinating with MCT this year. Another thank you to our local sponsors who made it possible to bring MCT to our school and not have to charge admission to enjoy the public performance.

## CLASS PICTURES

Class Pictures were taken today! If you missed the option to send a payment with your student, you still have the opportunity to purchase. Students are coming home with a QR code, that when scanned with your smart phone, will take you directly to Legacy Photography's website. Legacy has assured us that they will have our class pictures available for viewing and purchase online by tomorrow afternoon (Friday, March 22nd). Any photos purchased within the next week (by Friday, March 29th) will be shipped free of charge to the school and distributed from here. Pictures purchased after that time will be shipped to your home and there will be a shipping charge.

## PTO NEWS

Tomorrow is PTO Popcorn Friday! It has been generously sponsored by The Wilkes Family, which means every kindergarten through 8th grade student will receive free popcorn! Thank you Wilkes Family!

## LOST & FOUND

Our Lost and Found is overflowing again! Please urge your student to check for their belongings and feel free to stop by and take a look as well. Next Friday, as we go to Spring Break, all items will be disposed of.

## Important Happenings

- 3/22 End of 3rd Quarter
- 3/22 FUN FRIDAY - Backwards Day
- 3/22 PTO Popcorn Friday - sponsored by Wilkes Family
- 3/22 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 3/25 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 3/27 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 3/28 Read 2 Ride Reading Logs due
- 3/28 3rd Quarter Report Cards go home w/ students
- 3/28 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 3/29 FUN FRIDAY - Pajama and Stuff Day
- 3/29 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 4/1-4/5 **NO SCHOOL - Spring Break**
- 4/8 Running Start Reading Program begins
- 4/8 Solar Eclipse Viewing
- 4/8 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 4/10 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 4/11 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 4/12 PTO Popcorn Friday
- 4/12 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 4/15 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 4/17 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 4/17 PTO Meeting—4:30—Rm 1—Elementary
- 4/18 REACH - 3rd-8th Gr After School Program - 3:30-5PM
- 4/19 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 4/26 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 5/3 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 5/6-5/10 Teacher / Staff Appreciation Week
- 5/7 5-12 Gr Summer Band Concert - 6:30-HS Gym
- 5/9 K-6 Summer Music Concert - 6:30PM - EL Gym
- 5/10 *Early out - 2:05PM*
- 5/17 **NO SCHOOL**

## Thompson Falls Elementary

Mr. Len Dorscher,  
Principal

School web site:  
<http://thompsonfalls.net>



ThompsonFallsSchools



Thompson Falls School District #2 shall provide equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, sex, marital status, previous arrest or incarceration or non-program-related physical, sensory or mental handicaps as stated in board policy and MCA 49-2-307, 49-3-205.

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### **Alleviate Power Struggles By Asking Questions**

Even though they might not realize it, many parents who call us are locked in power struggles with their kids. Whenever they order their kids to do something, or command them not to do something, their kids completely ignore them or resist by arguing. Most families will experience power struggles between parents and kids, and these struggles create tension and stress for everyone in the family. One technique for defusing power struggles, as well as alleviating stress, is the simple act of asking questions.

Which is more powerful, a question, or a statement? Here are some examples of differences between statements or orders, and questions. Saying, "Stop behaving that way," is more likely to create resistance than saying, "Can you save that behavior for later?" "That's too expensive. I'm not buying it," will probably create more of a battle than, "How are you planning to pay for that?" "Take out the trash. I'm not taking you to your friend's house until you do," stands a better chance of starting a protracted argument than, "When do you suppose I'll be willing to take you to your friend's house?" Many times, a thoughtful inquiry has a far greater impact on a child's thinking and behavior than a statement. Why is this?

**Statements tend to create resistance. Questions are more likely to create thinking.**

Why are commands or orders from parents so often met with resistance from kids? One reason is that the message tends to be accompanied by a tone of voice that is much more likely to trigger an emotional response rather than a thinking response. Why are questions so powerful? Do they cause our minds to search for closure in the form of answers? Does the brain have less energy to fight when it's busy pondering a question? Questions, when asked with an empathetic tone, tend to result in a thinking reaction instead of an emotional reaction.

Here are some examples of strategic questions:

- \* When do I allow kids to enjoy treats?
- \* When do I listen to kids?
- \* What do you think might happen if you don't let me know where you are? If you ran into a serious problem, would I know where to find you to help?
- \* When I pick up your toys for you, who gets to keep them?
- \* How can you prove that you are ready to drive the car?

When children get older, will they need even better decision-making skills than we needed at their age? Are the consequences of their decisions more serious than they were a decade ago? Sometimes it's smart to tell our kids what to do, but will we enjoy fewer power struggles if we keep this to a minimum?

What's another benefit of asking questions? When we ask questions, we communicate a very powerful and loving message:

**I know that you can think! I believe in you!**

Power struggles in families can also arise between parents. Over the years, we have learned that Love and Logic not only works between adults and kids, but between adults as well.

One of our primary jobs as parents is to help our children become so full of healthy habits, coping skills, and positive relationships that there is no room for the negative. Although this is undoubtedly easier said than done, demonstrating love while empowering our kids to own and solve their own problems is a huge step.

***Each week we will share Love & Logic tips here. We also have many Love & Logic resources available for loan.***

***Contact our school counselor, Ms. Taylour Freed, for more info.***